



## CATAWBA COUNTY

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### **CATAWBA COUNTY ANIMAL SERVICES SCHEDULES RABIES VACCINATION CLINICS**

Catawba County Animal Services will continue this year's series of rabies clinics on Saturday, August 6, 2011, at Tuttle Elementary School, 2872 Water Plant Road, Maiden. All clinics will be held on Saturdays in 2011 and again spread out over more of the year in hopes of making clinics convenient for more citizens. The Catawba County Animal Shelter also provides one year rabies vaccinations to pet owners year round, Monday through Friday between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"North Carolina law states that, in all counties where a campaign of vaccination such as our clinics is being conducted, it is the duty of the owner of every dog, cat and ferret over four months of age to have them vaccinated for rabies," said Jay Blatche, Catawba County's Animal Services Manager. "Pet owners face a \$50 fine if they do not have pets vaccinated. Tags showing proof of the vaccination of dogs must be placed on the dog's collar. Cat and ferret owners must be able to show proof of a current vaccination in the form of a rabies certificate."

Rabies is a very dangerous disease that infects only mammals and is spread by infected animals through bites, saliva or cerebral spinal fluid. While it is mainly carried by wild animals, any pets that aren't vaccinated are at great risk if they come in contact with an infected animal. Rabies is a fatal virus which attacks the central nervous system. That's why it's so important for pet owners across Catawba County to take advantage of these clinics.

All pets brought to these clinics will receive a one-year rabies vaccination. A fee of \$5, which is unchanged from last year, will be charged for each vaccination. The fee is set to recoup the cost of the vaccine.

Here is the schedule for the remaining clinics, all on Saturdays and from 10 a.m. until 12 Noon

August 6	Tuttle Elementary School, 2872 Water Plant Road, Maiden
September 3	Sherrills Ford-Terrell Fire and Rescue Base, 4011 Slanting Bridge Road, Sherrills Ford

"All dogs must be on a leash and under control of the dog owner, at all times, at the Rabies Clinic site. All cats must be in a carrier for the safety and security of the cat," Blatche added.

A brochure is available that also lists the clinic schedule and other details. You may request a copy, or specific information about the clinics, by calling the Catawba County Animal Shelter at 828-464-7686.